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April 26, 2000

Docket Clerk Research and Promotion Branch Fruit and Vegetable Programs Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA Stop 0244 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Room 2535 South Building Washington, DC 20250-0244

Subject: Proposed order to implement the amendments to the Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act.

Federal Register: February 28, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 39) Pages 10599-10618

I am in favor of the proposed Order. The honey industry badly needs purity standards and an effective monitoring and inspection system to maintain the most important thing the industry has going for it - the image as a pure, natural product. We also need more beekeeping and production research. There are several new and very serious problems facing the beekeeping industry an funding for additional research is difficult to obtain.

The process of getting a proposed order has dragged on far too long. Please close this matter and submit the proposed Order to the honey industry at the earliest possible time.

Sincerely,

Binford Weaver